

**AGENDA**  
**CANTON BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS**  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2008**  
**GARDEN CENTER BUILDING**  
**4:00 P.M.**

Reading of the minutes of the November 12, 2008 regular meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. HUD Waterworks Playground
2. Willig Field Project
3. Donations in support of Holiday Light Display
4. Park Brochure Development

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Safety Director Nesbitt regarding Fire Station plans and Playground D
2. Request from Ms. Suzie Thomas regarding Mother Gooseland Items

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**ADJOURNMENT**

## **CANTON PARK COMMISSION**

### **BOARD MINUTES**

**DECEMBER 10, 2008**

The Canton Board of Park Commissioners met in regular session on Wednesday, December 10, 2008, at the Garden Center Building.

Present were: Mr. Andy Black, President; Mr. Lon Winberry, Vice President; Mr. Jack Angelo, Member; and Mr. Doug Foltz, Assistant Park Director. There were many guests in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

At this time a motion was made by J. Angelo to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2008 regular meeting as written. A second was provided by L. Winberry, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. HUD Waterworks Playground - Mr. Black provided a review of HUD grant history including Law Director Joe Martuccio's HUD grant and joint purchasing memorandum and Canton City Ordinance 171/2008.

Mr. Angelo noted that the original grant application was to build a facility in Waterworks Park. Mr. Foltz was asked his opinion of locations within the Park System. Mr. Foltz indicated that it might be possible to build two play structures, at Nimisilla and Waterworks Park. Cost savings from the original estimate could be made by Park & Recreation employees installing play equipment. Park Board members reviewed Gametime catalog and estimated budget.

Councilman Tom West stated that he was working with MRDD Board for additional state money for the Nimisilla Park location. He asked for a monetary commitment for Nimisilla Park location. There was discussion concerning bathroom conditions of both Waterworks and Nimisilla sites. Mr. Angelo asked if bathroom locations could be updated for handicap access. Mr. Foltz indicated he would look at bathroom sites with Dan Gravila, Park General Maintenance Specialist.

A gentleman from the audience stated that Nimisilla Park would be a great location for a new playground. He sited history of park facilities in the park that were no longer there. Mr. Angelo asked if plans for restroom updating was part of the original grant application. Mr. Black stated that bathroom upgrades should be planned for whichever sites a playground is built.

Mr. Angelo stated that Council's seven to five resolution was a reason to review two sites for a playground. Mr. Foltz was asked about costs for rubberized surface versus wood mulch. After further discussion, the Board members wanted more specific information for the January meeting as follows:

1. Contact HUD & Law Department as to feasibility of two (2) locations for New Horizons Park
2. Review if bathroom renovations are part of grant requirements.
3. Provide costs for upgrades for bathroom locations at Waterworks and Nimisilla Parks
4. Provide plans for playground facilities with costs for wood chips and poured in place rubber for Waterworks and Nimisilla Parks

HUD Waterworks playground is to remain on the agenda for the next meeting. Board members plan to make a decision soon to ensure the grant is used for spring 2009.

Mr. Andy Black asked members to adjust the agenda for the fire station since Director Nesbitt & Rodney Meadows were in the audience.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Safety Director Nesbitt regarding Fire Station plans and Playground D - Safety Director Nesbitt and Rodney Meadows brought the overview of the existing fire station and Playground D for the Park Board members to review. Director Nesbitt indicated a need for additional park area north of existing fire station. No formal plans were presented to the Park Board. There was some discussion about the existing park shelter which might be demolished. Mr. Foltz indicated that bathrooms could be remodeled in the shelter for approximately \$10,000 with the park employees providing labor to do so. Director Nesbitt indicated that the new bathroom facilities would be part of the new station that would be available to park users. Mr. Black indicated that this is the first time that anyone has addressed the Park Board about the new station at this site. Mr. Black indicated that a formal request was needed for the Park Board to review. He also stated that the Park Board could relinquish control of the soccer field area on certain conditions that if the fire station is not built, the area reverts back to park property.

All three Board members discussed previous park properties that were relinquished to the City for specific plans that were never formalized. Mr. Winberry hoped any plan would minimize impact of landscape toward existing oak trees and park area. Mr. Black indicated that construction methods should protect the remaining park land.

Maureen Austin, OSU Extension Educator for Agriculture & Natural Resources, spoke to the Park Board. She informed the Board of "Why Trees Matter" and offered to provide a program and information to make an informed choice.

Mr. Philip Papadopoulos spoke against building the new fire station. He referenced football use of soccer area and Oak Heritage trees that should not be removed.

Patricia Kirk also spoke in favor of keeping oak trees and asked if the fire station was a done deal. She also noted that the nursing home was upset with losing trees and a bigger fire station which takes more park property. Director Nesbitt said the project is planned to go forward and other planning meetings available for public input in the future. Director Nesbitt and Rod Meadows will meet with Park Director Doug Perry and Doug Foltz about more specifics on the building plans. The formal request will be made with more information for the January Park Board meeting.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

2. Willig Field Project - Mr. Foltz updated that the project was complete, only parking lot improvements remain to be done. Mr. Black asked that Jeffries or Park System employees grade the parking lot and clean up the dirt before the next season since the asphalt work will not occur before next spring.
3. Donations in support of Holiday Light Display - Mr. Foltz passed out the donation brochure for holiday displays for the Board to review. The Board members requested that the Ogleby Park reference be omitted. The Board asked Mr. Foltz to proceed to send out the brochures to start fund raising for next year.
4. Park Brochure Development - Mr. Foltz updated the Park Board that Mr. Perry had taken fall pictures and will take spring pictures for brochure development.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

2. Request from Ms. Suzie Thomas regarding Mother Gooseland Items - The Park Board reviewed the request of Suzie Thomas to reclaim wooden table and chairs her father, Ken Ward, donated to Mother Gooseland. There was discussion of the length of time these items have been in storage since the park closed in 1990. Mr. Angelo made motion, and second by Mr. Winberry, to send a letter thanking the family for the donation and since the items have not intrinsic value to the Park System, to return the table and chairs to the family.

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Patricia Kirk requested that the Park Board add to the agenda for January 14, 2009 meeting discussion to keep Kresge lot, 300 block Market Ave. N as permanent green space.



2. Jack Angelo brought up Tree Commission plan and wants to meet with the Law Director to discuss how the plan can be restructured with the existing Park System.
3. City Engineer Dan Moeglin stated he reviewed park rehabilitation plans, both assessment and action programs for Canton Parks. He received these from Mr. Perry. Board members requested copies of these 1980 studies for their review.

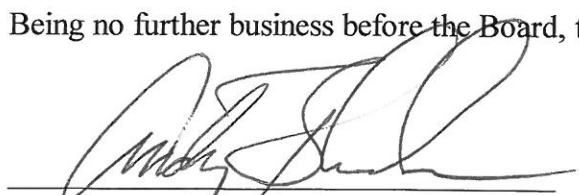
Mr. Moeglin provided updates to specific projects:

1. Trail Master plan
2. Martindale Bridge
3. Fairhope Nature Preserve
4. Pike Township - possible wetland bank
5. Various grant applications such as Natureworks & Trail Grants due March 1, 2009
6. Fulton - Stadium Drive intersection


Mr. Moeglin thanked Park employees for their work at the train depot.

4. Mr. Black discussed Timken Company Earth Day plantings for 2009. He would like Timken Co., Park Director and the Assistant Director to meet in January/February to discuss tree plantings. He mention Fairhope Preserve area as a possible site.
5. Mr. Foltz discussed budget meeting he attended earlier in the week. He indicated over one million dollar shortfall for 2009 and Council is reviewing retirement package for employees.
6. Councilman Greg Hawk arrived at the meeting at this point and asked for an update of New Horizons Park. He stated various reasons to keep the playground at the Waterworks site. Mr. Hawk considered the grant to be site specific to Waterworks Park and that we should follow the original grant application to ensure future grant opportunities.
7. Park Commission members requested that Assistant Director Doug Foltz attend all future Park Board meetings.
8. Mr. Angelo discussed Riverside property. He wants the Park Board to review future football field plans. Mr. Foltz indicated that land area would need graded before it could be used as a football facility. Mr. Black had some company in mind to perform grade work. Mr. Angelo asked that park employees seed the area if the property was approved. He asked that any plans for the former Riverside Park be given to the Park Board.

Being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.



Andy Black  
President



Douglas Foltz  
Assistant Director